THE Humble Addresse of John Musgrave, To the Supreme Authority, The Parliament of the Common Wealth of *England*.

To the Right Honourable William Lenthall, *Speaker to the Honourable House of Parliament; and to every individual Member thereof.*

Right Honourable,

BEfore this Parliament begun, I suffered not a little, lost the favour and friendship of my great kindred, for asserting the Common Liberty against the arbitrary proceedings of the corrupt Judges in the case of Ship-money.

Upon the Tryal of the Earl of *Strafford*, I was produced as a witnesse, attended upon my own charge; and then it was said, I did the Parliament an acceptable service, as my Lord Commissioner *Whitlock* well remembers. Upon my return into the Country after the said Earl's Tryal, I was committed to *Carlisle* Castle by Sheriff *Dike*, because I gave evidence against the Earl upon his Tryal.

Upon the late King's leaving the Parliament, and going to *York*, I was accused and committed for Trea-

ſon, for my affection to the Parliament. Afterwards for refuſing the Oath of allegiance, and for adhering to the Parliament, I was condemned *in premunire*, to forfeit lands and goods, and to be impriſoned during life, and a hundred pound, after I got my liberty, was bidden by Sir *Philip Muſgrave*, to bring me in alive or dead, and the little eſtate I had, then ſeized on, and my ſelf declared Traytor. I was forced to flye into *Scotland* for my life, (the Parliament having no Garriſon near us) where I lived in exile two years, untill our Country was reduced to obedience of Parliament.

I diſcovered the treachery of Sir *Wilfride Lawſon*, and others intruſted for the Parliament, who (while I attended here) betrayed the Country twice into the enemies hand.

While I was priſoner to the Parliament in the *Fleet*, I did give intelligence to the Armies Agitators, and otherwiſe was uſeful to the Army, as Col. *Saxby*, and Lieut. Col. *Joyce*, can give accompt of, which the L. General took ſpecial notice of, upon his coming up to the Parliament againſt the City: And the L. General upon his march for *Scotland*, recommended my petition to Mr. *Weaver*, to preſent to the Parliament; but Mr. *Weaver* going into *Ireland*, could not do it.

Upon ſpecial order from the Counſel of State, I brought in my exceptions to the new Commiſſioners of the *Militia* for *Cumberland*, made good the ſame, they being all diſaffected to the preſent Government, and moſt of them formerly actually in Armes againſt the Parliament. The other day, they ſuffered 26 men, to carry away Colonel *Hemmingham Steward*

Steward from *Rose* Castle, within two miles of *Carliſle*, without reſiſtance, though they had timely notice of it, and none of the enemies forces within 30 miles of *Carliſle*; which as they are treacherous, diſcover'd them alſo to be baſe and cowardly.

The Commiſſioners for the Militia in *Cumberland*, are alſo Commiſſioners for ſequeſtrations, and for Miniſters, who protect Delinquents from ſequeſtrations, and keeps in their places malignant and diſaffected Miniſters.

That by an order of Parliament (made the 18. of *February*, 1650.) for concealed delinquents in *Cumberland*, the Parliament and Common Wealth will be cheated of five thouſand by year, if the Commiſſioners for ſequeſtrations in Cumberland (as that order directs) have the diſpoſing of the concealments; the Commiſſioners for ſequeſtrations there being Delinquents, and ſequeſtrable.

That moſt of the Delinquents in the North, who have compounded at *Goldſmiths* Hall, have compounded at far under-valewes; and more concealed not compounded for: But all ſuch as ſollicite for the Common Wealth, receive ſuch diſcouragements from the Commiſſioners at *Haberdaſhers* Hall, as few men will make any further diſcoveries: If deſired, I ſhall particularize wherein.

That ſome in the *North* have compounded with Sir *Arthur Haſlerigg*, and paid their Fines, yet their eſtates are kept under ſequeſtration, and the Commiſſioners for compounding, will not give order to diſcharge the ſame, but wearies the parties out with delayes, to the great oppreſſion of ſuch.

That I have brought in to the Common Wealth

by discoveries, (upon my own charge) four thousand pounds by year, whereof the Common-wealth is now actually possessed; And my discoveries not perfected, I will undertake if finished, will amount unto above ten thousand pounds *per annum*; But untill I have my petition read, in Alderman *Allan's* hand, I am wholly disabled, as discouraged, further to proceed therein.

If you refuse to receive our petitions, remove Delinquents out of the Militia, bring to examination our complaints, as those under you in Authority have in the Northern parts, from time to time betrayed and given us up to the enemy; and by oppression enriched themselves; Pardon my boldnesse, we cannot but impute the fault hereof to you, and you will make your selves guilty of the losse, harm, and blood the enemies shall do and shed in this Nation; our Country being a door or inlet for any enemy.

If you will revoke your Order of the 18. of November, 1650. I will undertake without any charge to you, out of the moyeties of my discoveries, to raise 2000 l. for a manufacture in *Cumberland*, and 1000 l. for the distressed well-affected there; and will raise and maintain 200 horse with their Riders, under faithful Commanders, whom the Generall shall approve of; the other moyety of the discoveries to come into the publick treasury, the fifths for my travel and charges onely deducted.

If you approve not of this, then pardon all our Northern Delinquents; for better so, then the whole profits of them, to be swallowed up by a few malignant men, who enrich themselves thereby, and cheat the Common Wealth of thousands.

Whereas

Whereas it may be objected, multiplicity of State-
business hinders private to be heard by you.

I answer, you noble General and the Officers
of the Army, upon complaint from Country men of
disorder in any Souldier, might give the like answer;
but we see not the least offence upon that account
passed by, but examined, and severely punished;
and thereby it is the best ordered discipline Army
that ever *Europe* had.

2. I observe notwithstanding the objection, the
great and eminent Lawyers of the House, for a ten
shillings fee, will wave all State business in Parlia-
ment, and attend at the Bar of any Court in *West-
minster* Hall, and so whole Termes, and take their per-
ambulations for money with the Judges in their se-
veral Circuits.

3. I see and observe Cavaleers and Delinquents
frequently and daily have their petitions read, and
ready dispatches, without any long attendance: so
publick business is but pretences and meer excuses,
no reality or weight in it.

We have none sitting in Parliament for *Cumberland*,
but Sir *John Ipsley*, who never to this day preferred a
petition for any well-affected in *Cumberland*; but
ready ever to serve Cavaliers and Delinquents here,
I will forbear to say more, in hope he may grow
better, as older) and Alderman *Allan*, who hath such
great employments and State-business, that he can-
not mind us.

I never sought nor affected a place or office, nei-
ther ever will. I never had sallery or profit for any
service I ever did you. Many grow rich by your
offices, I desire to recover my own by your Justice,
whereby

whereby I may be the better enabled to ſerve my Country: And if my petition in Alderman *Allan's* hand may be read, as I doubt not your Juſtice, ſo the Commons will be benefited thereby, many thouſand pounds.

Being friendleſſe and meanleſſe, otherwiſe then by this addreſſe to come unto you. If any man of honour, upon reading the ſame, conſider mine and my Countries condition procure us right and juſtice, I ſhall be thankful, and bleſſe God for it; till when, I will live in hope, and ever be as I write,

The ſecond of the 9th. month, 1651.

Your Honours humble ſervant, for Juſtice ſake,

John Muſgrave.

The

The Copy of a Letter, written by the Church at Broughton in Cumberland, to *John Musgrave*.

Kinde Friend,

UPon your return from *London* the laſt Michaelmas Term we were much gladded the Councel of State was pleaſed to hear you upon your exceptions to the Commiſſioners of the Militia, and for their Declaration to redreſs our grievances complained of by you in your Remonſtrance (but when we underſtood that Sir *Arthur Haſlerig* had procured the ſame men whom you excepted againſt, not only to be Commiſſioners for the Militia, but for the Miniſtery) we were caſt down, conceiving the Enemy to be potent and prevailing more on you, becauſe of your negligence, though formerly you have been very active and ſuffering for your Countrey, yet in this we cannot but blame you, being confident that if the Councel of State had known what manner of men they were, how diſaffected to the preſent Parliament, either Cavaliers, or of the Scottiſh faction, not one of them would have been approved by the Councel of State, unleſs the Governour of *Carlile*, who in regard he is a ſtranger is wholly guided by the other; As for the Militia, they purſue not the Act, but take a diſpoſing power of mens eſtates, ſetting ſome the half horſe, where his eſtate is not equal, to ſuch they impoſe but a third part: And for the Miniſtry, they approve of few or none, but ſuch as be either of the Scottiſh faction, and raylers againſt Independents, or if worſe may be, ſuch as are Malignants and Royaliſts; but for honeſt men they cannot abide, ſuch they remove and put out of the Miniſtry under the name of Sectaries and Independents; as Mr. *Lampit*, Mr. *Baggerley*, and Mr. *Wharton*; if any be for the

the Presbytery, though he deny the Ingagement, approved of, and allowed, our Justices of the Peace do impose book-swearing upon some of the States friends, and for denying of the same do fine them in ten pounds, threatning them, and scoffing and calling as they think good. Mr. *Musgrave* be not weary of well doing, though you have no money nor wages from us, slight us not, it concerns you neerly; If the enemy be thus holden up, you can expect little ease, and less security; therefore as you tender your owne welfare, and your friends peace, be not sluggish, or longer silent, but stand for the cause of God and his people; Be bold, it will be your honour, whatsoever the success be, trust God: Sir, however bad our condition is, we will not cease to trouble you, hoping you will take in good part what we have written; you will not forsake your suffering friends, or in silence leave us under our enemies hands; Let the God of power inable you to finish what ye have begun for the good of his Church and people in these parts, to whose protection and care we recommend you and our cause, this 31. of the Ninth moneth, 1650.

Your Brethren in affection, and signed by the direction of the Church at Broughton *in particular*, viz. Joh. Robinson, Munge Rothery, Gowen Wheelwright, John Tiffin, John Bow, John Scot, Francis Smith, Thomas Thompson, John Nicholson.

For Mr. *John Musgrave.*

The Councel of State, after my two years attendance, notwithstanding their many promises, and declaration, have left me and my cause wholly to the Parliament.

FINIS.